

Transportation Committee Meeting
MIRA, 211 Murphy Road, Hartford, CT
Monday November 13, 2017
12 Noon

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>
Larry Baril	Avon
Chris Edge	Berlin
Jon Colman	Bloomfield
Patrice Carson	Bolton
Todd Penney	Coventry
Mike Ciriello	Enfield
Russ Arnold	Farmington
Kirk Severance	Granby
Jim Ford	Hartford
Kevin Kelly	Hebron
Jeff LaMalva	Manchester
John Carrington	Mansfield
Peter Hughes	Marlborough
Rob Trottier	New Britain
Gary Fuerstenberg	Newington
John Bossi	Plainville
Stephen Sopolak	Rocky Hill
Tom Roy	Simsbury
Jeff Bord	Somers
Keith Hayden	Southington
Jeffrey Doolittle	South Windsor
Gerry Turbet	Suffield
David Smith	Vernon
Duane Martin	West Hartford
Derrick Gregor	Wethersfield
Bob Jarvis	Windsor

<u>Guests</u>	
Jennifer Cassidy	GHTD
Mary Deppe	GHTD
Jamis Kulpa	VHB
Grayson Wright	CTDOT
Ken Shooshan-Stoller	FHWA
Eloise Powell	FHWA
Chris Hansen	FHWA
Jonathan Thiesse	Bloomfield
Matthew Skelly	Fuss & O'Neill
Jennifer Rodriguez	Windsor Locks
Chris Kervick	Windsor Locks

DRAFT until

Endorsed

by the

Committee

Staff

Rob Aloise	CRCOG
Jennifer Carrier	CRCOG
Michael Cipriano	CRCOG
Devon Lechtenberg	CRCOG
Tim Malone	CRCOG
Jillian Massey	CRCOG
Pramod Pandey	CRCOG
Cara Radzins	CRCOG
Sotoria Montanari	CRCOG
Karen Stewartson	CRCOG
Lyle Wray	CRCOG

1. **Roll Call** – Mr. Jon Colman called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.
2. **Public Forum** – No one choose to speak.
3. **Adoption of Meeting Minutes from September 25th, 2017** – A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Keith Hayden from the Town of Southington, to adopt the meeting minutes from the September 25th, 2017 meeting. This motion was passed unanimously.
4. **Staff Reports**
 - **Safety Performance Measures - CTDOT Statewide Targets** - Ms. Jillian Massey and Ms. Jennifer Carrier gave a brief update on the Safety Performance Measures Report. Ms. Massey stated that Federal regulations (23CFR 490.207 (a) National performance management measures for the Highway Safety Improvement Program) state that the MPOs shall establish performance targets for each of the measures identified in the HSIP by February 27th, 2018. After discussion, Ms. Jennifer Carrier told the Committee that this topic may be added to the Cost Review Sub-Committee agenda for more discussion at the December meeting.
 - **2018-2022 CTDOT Capital Plan-CRCOG Comments** - Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the 2018-2022 Capital Plan Memo. Ms. Carrier highlighted two important comments that were provided by the CRCOG staff: CRCOG is beginning the process of updating the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and CRCOG is interested in improving coordination and transparency between CTDOT and Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) as it relates to transit projects.
 - **Farmington Canal Heritage Trail Gap Closure & CTfastrak Connection Study Update** - Mr. Tim Malone gave an update on the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail Gap Closure and CTfastrak Connection Study. The study is designed to find a trail alignment for the last gap in the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail (FCHT), which, when complete, will be an 84 mile long trail from New Haven, CT to Northampton,

MA. It will also determine an alignment for a connection between Plainville and the Downtown New Britain CTfastrak station, where the CTfastrak multi-use trail begins. The study started in April of 2016 and the team is now refining the preliminary preferred alignment for each of the two segments. The alignments were developed through a series of public workshops and field work that narrowed down an initial list of 14 potential alignments in Plainville, and four in New Britain, to the current preferred alignments. The team will continue to incorporate comments received from the public, and work with regulatory agencies to refine the alignments over the next few months. They are also working on an implementation plan that will be released to the public for comment.

- **LOTICIP-FY 2018 Quarter 1 and General Update** - Ms. Sotoria Montanari gave a brief update on the LOTICIP Quarterly Report for Quarter 1 (July 1, to September 30, 2017). The highlights were extracted from two tables provided, *LOTICIP Program Status Summary* and *LOTICIP Project Quarterly Status Report* and summarized below:

- CRCOG expended **\$3,380,712** in Quarter 1 FY18 and anticipates expenditures of **\$3,816,400** in Quarter 2.
- CRCOG's projections for FY18 expenditures are approximately **\$28M**
- CRCOG received **six (6)** of the **nine (9)** expected Quarter 1 design submissions
- CRCOG anticipates receipt of **fourteen (14)** design submissions in Quarter 2 of FY2018
- **Three (3)** projects entered construction, **three (3)** are expected next quarter
- CTDOT issued **four (4)** *Commitment to Fund Letters* during Quarter 1 of FY2018
- **Three (3)** LOTICIP applications were submitted to CTDOT for approval
- **Three (3)** LOTICIP Bridge applications were received; **one (1)** was submitted to CTDOT
- **Seven (7)** Projects have completed construction since program inception

Three municipal representatives were asked to provide schedule updates at the meeting: One town representative provided an update and the other two towns will provide updates at the next sub-committee meeting.

- **CTrail Hartford Line Fares** - Ms. Cara Radzins told the Committee that CTDOT has released proposed fares for the CT**rail** Hartford Line. A Service and Fare Equity (SAFE) Analysis was also prepared by UConn and found that there was no disproportionate burden or disparate impact on minority or low-income populations posed by the proposed fares. The fares and the SAFE Analysis are available for public comment until November 27th. Comments can be submitted via email, US mail, or at public hearings being held on November 13th in New

Haven, November 14th in Hartford, and November 15th in Springfield. Ms. Radzins noted that the proposed fares are distance-based and similar to those currently charged for Shore Line East rail service. Sample fares include \$8 between Hartford and New Haven and \$6 between Hartford and Springfield, with discounted fares available for seniors and people with disabilities. More information can be found on the CTDOT website at:

www.ct.gov/dot/hartfordlinecomments

- **Upcoming MPO Certification Review** - Ms. Jennifer Carrier briefed the Committee on the upcoming Hartford Transportation Management Area (TMA) Certification Review meeting that will be held on Monday January 8th, 2018. Location is to be determined, but the draft agenda includes a Transportation Committee meeting to not only conduct usual business but also to give committee members an opportunity to give feedback to the Federal agencies.
- **State Budget Update** - Dr. Lyle Wray gave a brief update on the State Budget. Dr. Wray shared that neither a cap on transportation bonding nor a raid on the special transportation fund were included in the budget. While these were the two most concerning aspects related to transportation funding, Dr. Wray noted that CRCOG is working with CTDOT and the Governor's office to understand all of the budget's details. Dr. Wray stated that there remain concerns regarding the accumulation of debt services and a decrease in operating subsidies for CT **fastrak**. Dr. Wray shared that according to the Accessibility Observatory at the University of Minnesota, Hartford is one of the ten fastest growing regions in terms of the number of jobs accessible by public transportation, and he expressed a desire to ensure that we continue on this path of supporting transit in the region.

5. **Transportation Safety and Improvements Study-UConn Hartford Campus**

<http://crocog.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/CRCOG-Final-Report-100417-ENGLISH.pdf> - Mr. Rob Aloise gave a brief overview of the study and indicated that

staff is seeking Transportation Committee endorsement on the study's Final Report. Mr. Aloise reminded the committee that the Draft Report had been presented to them at the September meeting during the comment period. Mr. Aloise also indicated that comments received during the review period have been incorporated into the final report and that the City of Hartford supports the report's findings, which was confirmed at the meeting by Hartford staff. A motion was made by Jim Ford from the City of Hartford, seconded by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton. This motion was passed unanimously. Following Transportation Committee approval the study resolution will be brought before the CRCOG Policy Board for adoption on November 15th, 2017.

6. **Transportation Planning Study Application Selections** - Mr. Rob Aloise informed the committee that staff is requesting that a motion be made to approve two study applications for submission to CTDOT for use of STP-Urban funding. Mr. Aloise reminded the committee that the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CTDOT) is currently accepting applications from the regions for Transportation Planning

Studies and in September CRCOG announced a competitive solicitation for one (1) municipally initiated study and one (1) regional study aimed to address bigger picture system-wide improvements. By the October 26, 2017 deadline, CRCOG staff received application materials for one (1) municipally initiated study and prepared application materials for one (1) regional study shown below.

- **Route 20 Corridor Study** (\$210,000 - pending CTDOT review)
- **Regional Transit Strategy** (\$300,000 - pending CTDOT review)

A motion was made by Chris Edge from the Town of Berlin, seconded by Jeffrey Doolittle from the town of South Windsor to endorse studies for submission as the region's selections to forward to CTDOT for review and use of STP-Funding. This motion was passed unanimously.

7. MPO Self-Certification Resolution - Ms. Jennifer Carrier shared that FHWA and FTA recently reviewed CTDOT's STIP for FFY 2018-2021. While the Federal agencies conditionally approved the STIP, they did so with the requirement that CTDOT align their Section 5337 carryover funds with expected authorizations, improve coordination with MPOs regarding transit amendments, and ensure that MPOs update their self-certifications with current federal laws. Ms. Carrier noted that the resolution before the committee updated CRCOG's existing self-certification with the most current federal laws and regulations. A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Michael Ciriello from the Town of Enfield to accept the MPO-Self-Certification Resolution. This motion was passed unanimously.

8. TIP amendments: Ms. Jennifer Carrier reviewed the following TIP amendments:

- Farmington - Realign I-84 EB On-Ramp and US 6
- Hartford - Rehab Bridge 01686A over Market St. & Bridge 06048 over I-91
- Berlin & Cromwell - Replace Hwy Signs & Supports- CT 9 (exits 18-24), CT 5/15 & SR 571
- Enfield - Vehicles for Dial-A-Ride / Magic Carpet Transfer from FHWA(REP to FTA 5310S
- Rocky Hill - Silas Deane Highway Pedestrian Improvements
- Hartford – CTTransit Facility Rehab/Improvements FY17

A motion was made by Patrice Carson from the Town of Bolton, seconded by Stephen Sopelak. This motion was passed unanimously.

9. Presentation: Hebron Avenue/New London Turnpike Municipal Roundabout - Dan Pennington, Glastonbury Town Engineer, gave a brief presentation regarding the planning, design, and recently completed construction of the Hebron Avenue/New London Turnpike Municipal Roundabout.

10. Other Business – There was no other business discussed.

11. Adjourn- the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm